

What is claimed is:

1. A home automation system comprising:
 - a home automation controller located in a customer premises;
 - 5 a home automation server, located remotely from the customer premises, comprising a home automation application operative to control operation of a load coupled with the home automation controller; and
 - an access line coupling the home automation controller with the home automation server.
- 10 2. A home security system comprising:
 - a home security controller, located in a customer premises, comprising at least one security sensor;
 - a home security server, located remotely from the customer premises, comprising a home security application operative to monitor said at least one security sensor; and
 - 15 an access line coupling the home security controller with the home security server.
- 20 3. The invention of claim 1 or 2, further comprising:
 - a first data-over-voice modem coupled with the controller; and
 - a second data-over voice modem coupled with the server;
 - wherein the access line couples the first data-over-voice modem with the second data-over-voice modem.
- 25 4. The invention of claim 1 or 2, further comprising:
 - a premises gateway coupled with controller; and
 - a digital subscriber line access multiplexer coupled with the server;
 - wherein the access line couples the premises gateway with the digital subscriber line access multiplexer.
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5. The invention of claim 4, wherein the access line comprises a digital subscriber line.

5 6. The invention of claim 4, wherein the access line comprises an asymmetrical digital subscriber line.

Sub B 7. The invention of claim 1 or 2, further comprising a data network coupling the controller with the server.

10 8. The invention of claim 7, further comprising a speech processing computational server coupled with the data network.

15 9. The invention of claim 7, further comprising an Internet service provider coupled with the data network.

Sub B 10. The invention of claim 1 or 2, wherein the server is configured to be coupled with a central office.

20 11. The invention of claim 1 or 2, further comprising:
a telephone; and
a user-interface controller coupled with the telephone and the access line.

25 12. The invention of claim 1 or 2, further comprising:
a personal computer; and
a multiplexer coupled with the personal computer, the controller, and the access line.

13. The invention of claim 1, wherein the controller comprises device control means.

14. The invention of claim 2, wherein the controller further comprises at least one alerting device.

15. A home automation system comprising:
 a home automation controller located in a customer premises;
 a first data-over-voice modem coupled with the controller;
 a second data-over voice modem;
 an access line coupling the first data-over-voice modem with the second data-over voice modem; and
 a home automation server, located remotely from the customer premises and coupled with the second data-over voice modem, comprising a home automation application operative to control operation of a load coupled with the home automation controller.

16. A home security system comprising:
 a home security controller, located in a customer premises, comprising at least one security sensor;
 a first data-over-voice modem coupled with the controller;
 a second data-over voice modem;
 an access line coupling the first data-over-voice modem with the second data-over voice modem; and
 a home security server, located remotely from the customer premises and coupled with the second data-over voice modem, comprising a home security application operative to monitor said at least one security sensor.

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A home automation system comprising:

a home automation controller located in a customer premises;

a premises gateway coupled with controller;

a digital subscriber line access multiplexer;

an access line coupling the premises gateway with the digital subscriber line access multiplexer;

a home automation server, located remotely from the customer premises and coupled with the digital subscriber line access multiplexer, comprising a home automation application operative to control operation of a load coupled with the home automation controller.

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A home security system comprising:

a home security controller, located in a customer premises, comprising at least one security sensor;

a premises gateway coupled with controller;

a digital subscriber line access multiplexer;

an access line coupling the premises gateway with the digital subscriber line access multiplexer;

a home security server, located remotely from the customer premises and coupled with the digital subscriber line access multiplexer, comprising a home security application operative to monitor said at least one security sensor.

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A home automation system comprising:

first means, located in a customer premises, for controlling an operation of a load coupled with said first means; and

second means, coupled with and located remotely from said first means, for sending a command to said first means to control said operation of said load.

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20. A home security system comprising:
- first means, located remotely from a customer premises, for activating an alarm in response to a signal indicating a triggered sensor in said customer premises; and
 - second means, coupled with said first means and located in said customer premises, for sending said signal to said first means in response to a triggered sensor.

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21. A home automation controller comprising:
- device control means; and
 - first means, coupled with the device control means, for receiving a command from a remotely located home automation application to control an operation of a load coupled with said controller; and
 - second means, coupled with the device control means, for using the device control means to control said operation of said load.

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22. A home security controller comprising:
- at least one security sensor; and
 - means, coupled with said at least one security sensor, for sending a signal to a remotely located home security application indicating a triggered sensor in a customer premises.

- sub.D2
23. A home automation controller input device comprising:
- a display;
 - an input device coupled with the display; and
 - means, coupled with the input device, for communicating with a remotely located home automation application via an access channel.

24. A home security controller input device comprising:
 a display;
 an input device coupled with the display; and
 means, coupled with the input device, for communicating with a remotely
 located home security application via an access channel.

25. A home automation method comprising the steps of:

- (a) sending a command, to a home automation controller in a customer premises from a home automation application located remotely from the customer premises, to control an operation of a load coupled with the home automation controller; and
- (b) using the home automation controller to control said operation of said load in response to said command.

26. The method of claim 25, further comprising the step of using the home automation application to generate said command in response to receiving an alert from an information source.

27. The method of claim 25, wherein said load comprises a VCR.

28. A home security method comprising the steps of:

- (a) sending a signal from a home security controller in a customer premises to a home security application located remotely from the customer premises, said signal indicating a triggered sensor in the customer premises; and
- (b) using the home security application to activate an alarm in response to said signal.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein step (b) is automatically performed in response to said signal.

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30. The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of: (c) using the home security application to determine whether to activate said alarm in response to said signal, and wherein step (b) is performed only in response to a determination by the home security application that said alarm should be activated.

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31. The method of claim 28, wherein step (b) comprises the step of using the home security application to activate an alarming device in the customer premises in response to said signal.

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32. The method of claim 28, wherein step (b) comprises the step of contacting a monitoring bureau in response to said signal.

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33. A computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for home automation, the computer readable program code means comprising:

first computer readable program code means for sending a command, to a home automation controller in a customer premises from a home automation application located remotely from the customer premises, to control an operation of a load coupled with the home automation controller; and

second computer readable program code means for using the home automation controller to control said operation of said load in response to said command.

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34. A computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for home security, the computer readable program code means comprising:

first computer readable program code means for sending a signal from a home security controller in a customer premises to a home security application located remotely from the customer premises, said signal indicating a triggered sensor in the customer premises; and

second computer readable program code means for using the home security application to activate an alarm in response to said signal.

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